CONGRESSMAN MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

PENNSYLVANIA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Contact: Michael Conallen

Phone: 202-225-4276

LHOB 1516, Washington, D.C. www.house.gov/fitzpatrick Phone: 202-225-4276

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Fitzpatrick Announces the 2005 Academy Day Seminar

Langhorne, PA – Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick (R-PA) is urging area high school sophomores and juniors who are interested in attending one of the five U.S. Service Academies; the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, and U.S. Coast Guard Academy - to attend an informational day at the <u>Valley Forge Military Academy in the Mellon Hall on Sunday, April 10, 2005 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</u>

The Academy Day Seminar, held in conjunction with Representatives Curt Weldon, Chaka Fattah, Bob Brady, Jim Gerlach, and Allyson Schwartz, will provide high school students a wonderful opportunity to learn more about pursuing higher education in one of the five Service Academies. Additionally, the seminar will instruct students on how to apply for a nomination from the Congressman.

Representatives from the five service academies will be on hand to discuss application procedures and answer students' questions.

Students who attend one of the five U.S. Service Academies receive a free, four-year college education while simultaneously being imbued with the ideals of honor, courage, commitment, and undergoing rigorous physical training. Upon graduation they will be commissioned as officers and are required to serve in the armed forces a minimum of five years. The value of an academy appointment is valued at roughly \$265,000 -- covering the cost of 4 years of tuition, room, board, uniforms, and salary.

Earning an appointment to the service academies is an extremely competitive year-long process. Typically, students must receive a nomination from their Congressman, Senator, or the Vice President to be considered for an appointment. Students also must be in good physical shape and excel in academics. The deadline for high school senior applications for the 2005 school year has already passed.

Students interested in attending the 2005 Academy Day Fair can contact Congressman Fitzpatrick's office at (215) 752-7711 for more information or directions.

Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick is serving his first term as Representative of the 8th District of Pennsylvania, which includes Bucks County and portions of Montgomery County and Philadelphia.